CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

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THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY

of the

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

February 17, 2009

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM opposes Committee Bill 5995 ***"An Act Concerning the Freedom to Dry"*** which would prohibit local governments, among other entities, from imposing any restrictions on drying clothes outside.

Although the intent of the bill may be good - to allow energy-free drying mechanisms - it also usurps the authority of the public and its elected officials to make decisions that they deem appropriate for their community. The process for passage of any local regulations or ordinances is one that provides for public comment and input. The state should not micromanage local governments, but rather allow them to operate the way their residents ask them to.

CCM urges the committee to ***take no action*** on this bill.

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If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email kweaver@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 498-3026.